

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-01
OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00
COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01
STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12
H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIE-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00
/134 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3690

INFO UNCTAD COLLECTIVE

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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USEEC USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, ETRD

SUBJECT: NORDIC STATEMENT AT FINAL PLENARY OF COMMON
FUND NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THE JOINT NORDIC STATEMENT
DELIVERED DURING THE FINAL PLENARY OF THE COMMON FUND
NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS SUSPENDED DEC 1, 1977:

"JOINT NORDIC STATEMENT IN PLENARY

MR. PRESIDENT,

I AM SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE DELEGATIONS OF
FINLAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN. IT IS WITH REGRET THAT OUR
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DELEGATIONS TAKE THE FLOOR AT THIS FINAL PLENARY SESSION
OF THE CONFERENCE. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT OUR
PREFERENCE HAD BEEN TO ENDORSE A COMMON CONSENSUS ON
THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE COMMON FUND AS THE RESULT OF
OUR NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS OUR HOPE THAT THE CONFERENCE
BY SO DOING WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE THE FRAME-
WORK FOR OUR FUTURE WORK AND THUS ENABLING US TO CONTINUE

ON A MORE CONCRETE BASIS TOWARDS A COMMON UNDERSTANDING.

IT IS OUR FIRM CONVICTION THAT THE WORLD COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE THIS UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY OF TRANSLATING THE EXISTING POLITICAL WILL INTO CONCRETE ACTION IN AN AREA WHICH IS OF SUCH A CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY TO THE POOREST AMONG US. THIS LEADS US TO BELIEVE AND TO EXPRESS THE HOPE, THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE RESUMED AT AN EARLY DATE AND THUS PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THE INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY NEGOTIATIONS. LACK OF PROGRESS, ON THE OTHER HAND, COULD HAVE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME AS A WHOLE BECAUSE THE MAIN ELEMENTS OF THAT PROGRAMME ARE INTERRELATED AND PLAY A MUTUALLY SUPPORTING ROLE.

STABLE CONDITIONS ON THE WORLD COMMODITY MARKETS ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES DEPENDENT ON COMMODITY EXPORTS. HOWEVER, ALSO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD BENEFIT FROM SUCH STABILITY. IT IS THEREFORE IN THE INTEREST OF THE ENTIRE WORLD COMMUNITY TO FURTHER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS.

ONE OF THE KEY ISSUES AT THIS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN THE SOURCES OF FINANCE. OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE OF THE

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OPINION THAT ANY FORMULA WILL HAVE TO INCLUDE DIRECT ASSESSED GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS AS A PREREQUISITE FOR A VIABLE FINANCIAL STRUCTURE OF THE COMMON FUND.

IN THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES THE COMMON FUND SHOULD PLAY CRUCIAL ROLE AS A KEY INSTRUMENT. AS A NEW ENTITY IT WOULD FORM A NEW INSTITUTION WHICH WOULD COMPRISE IN A SINGLE BODY THE MAIN PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORLD COMMODITY TRADE AND FOSTER A GLOBAL VIEW OF THE COMMODITY PROBLEMS.

AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND WE SEE A ROLE FOR THE COMMON FUND ALSO IN THE FIELD OF MEASURES OTHER THAN STOCKING. BY SERVING AS A FOCAL POINT FOR THE COORDINATION OF COMMODITY POLICY AND ACTIVITIES THE FUND WOULD PERFORM AN IMPORTANT FUNCTION. THE FUND SHOULD, HOWEVER, ALSO BE IN A POSITION TO FINANCE SUCH OTHER MEASURES.

OUR GOVERNMENTS' SUPPORT AND EXPRESSED COMMITMENTS TO THE COMMON FUND AND ITS ELEMENTS ARE WELL KNOWN, AND WERE STATED ALREADY IN NAIROBI. I WOULD ONLY LIKE TO REITERATE THAT OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE READY TO PARTICIPATE

IN AND TO WORK TOWARDS BROAD AGREEMENT.

IT IS OUR CONVICTION THAT THE COMMON FUND AND THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME AS A WHOLE HAS EMERGED AS A CRUCIAL POLITICAL CRITERION FOR THE WHOLE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. IT HAS EMERGED AS THE PRINCIPAL CONCRETE NEGOTIATING ITEM FROM THE NUMEROUS MEASURES OUTLINED FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL SESSIONS AND THROUGH THE AGREEMENT REACHED AT CIEC ON THIS ISSUE. THIS, IN OUR VIEW, CAN BE INTERPRETED AS A SIGNAL FOR REALISATION OF THE NEED FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH DOES NOT RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF TODAY'S WORLD.

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IN CONCLUSION, MR. PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE APPRECIATION OF OUR DELEGATIONS FOR THE FINE EFFORTS WHICH YOU PERSONALLY HAVE MADE TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS WHICH AROSE TOWARDS THE END OF THIS CONFERENCE. THE THOUGHTS WHICH YOU PRESENTED TO THE GROUPS IN THE FINAL STAGE OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES, CAPITAL STRUCTURE, SOURCES OF FINANCE AND DECISION-MAKING, WERE MOST HELPFUL. IT IS, IN OUR OPINION, ALONG THOSE LINES THAT WE WILL HAVE TO WORK IF

WE ARE TO FIND A FINAL NEGOTIATED AND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE
SOLUTION.

WE WOULD NOT IMPRESS ON THIS CONFERENCE ANY DEFINITE
OPINIONS ON HOW THIS WORK SHOULD BE CONTINUED, BUT WE
DO BELIEVE THAT BOTH THE AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL SHOULD
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PLAY A ROLE IN THIS RESPECT.

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT." VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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